Sex Education in Schools

211. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided not to incorporate sex education in school curriculum;

(b) if so, whether Government intend to educate children on population and reproductive system;

(c) whether the possibility of making sex education in school syllabus after a certain age or introducing "population education" in its place has been examined by Government;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the experience gained by other developed countries regarding access to information on sex in school syllabus and whether that was taken into consideration by Government while arriving at the decision for not incorporating sex education as part of school education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) According to the information furnished by NCERT, they organised a National Seminar on Adolescence Education in 1994 in pursuance of NPE, 1986 (as modified in 1992) which recommended the introduction of "suitable components of adolescence education in the curricula at all stages of schooling". While planning the aforesaid Seminar, the NCERT collected feedback on the experiences of other countries in the area of Sex Education at school level and considered them in formulating recommendations on the framework of Adolescence Education.

Drip Irrigation for Tobacco Crops in Andhra Pradesh

212. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to encourage drip irrigation for tobacco crops in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any district has been selected for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) There is no proposal to encourage drip irrigation for tobacco crops in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Premium on Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme

213. PROF. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government's insistence on subsidising premiums on its "comprehensive crop insurance scheme" has landed it in a soup;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have lost Rs. 5.27 on every rupee it has earned as crop insurance premium in the 1995 Kharif season;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is a fact that a more realistic "break even rate" of premiums is being worked out to ensure that claim do not eat into the exchequer; and

(f) if so, the details of the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) No, sir, 50% premia subsidy is extended under the existing Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme to small & marginal